(a) the status of the investigation into the 26/11 terror attacks in Mumbai *vis-a-vis* Intelligence and Security in Centre and State;

(b) the steps that have been taken by Government to ensure that slip-ups in institutions, organizations and personnel are identified and there will be no recurrence of such incidents; and

(c) whether Government has finalized a code of conduct/protocol for media coverage in the event of any future attacks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) As per available information, Mumbai Terrorist Attacks case is being tried *vide* Sessions Case No. 175/2009. The trial in these cases is in progress before the Sessions Court, Mumbai and so far, 107 witnesses have been examined.

(b) The Government has been, on a continuing basis, reviewing the security arrangements in the light of emerging challenges, including terrorism, and a number of important decisions and measures have been taken. These measures include augmenting the strength of Central Para-Military Forces; amendment of the CISF Act to enable deployment of CISF in joint venture or private industrial undertakings; establishment of NSG hubs at Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Mumbai; empowerment of DG, NSG to requisition aircraft for movement of NSG personnel in the event of any emergency; strengthening and re-organising of Multi-Agency Centre to enable it to function on 24X7 basis for real time collation and sharing of intelligence with other intelligence and security agencies; and development of online and secure connectivity between Multi-Agency Centre, Subsidiary Multi-Agency Centres and State Special Branches. The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 has been amended and notified in 2008 to strengthen the punitive measures to combat terrorism. The National Investigation Agency has been constituted under the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008 to investigate and prosecute offences under the Acts in the Schedule.

(c) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has constituted a Media Consultative Committee for media facilitation, *inter alia,* to serve as a forum of regular consultations between Government and various professional media bodies, provide a platform for exchange of views on concerns of civil society, and to discuss concerns of media organizations on various regulatory/policy/procedural matters.

Steps for safety of people affected by Naxal attacks

498. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 200 people have been killed in Naxal attacks since January, 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken for safety of the people who are affected by the Naxal attacks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) During 1st January to 30th June 2009, 455 people have been killed which include 255 civilians and 200 security forces.

(c) Government has adopted an integrated approach in dealing with LWE activities in the arenas of security, development and public perception. State Governments deal with the various issues related to naxalite activities in the States. The Central Government supplements their efforts in several ways. These include deployment of Central paramilitary forces (CPMFs) and Commando Battalions for Resolute Action (CoBRA); sanction of India Reserve (IR) battalions, setting up of Counter Insurgency and Anti Terrorism (CIAT) schools; modernization and upgradation of the State Police and their Intelligence apparatus under the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF scheme); re-imbursement of security-related expenditure under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme; filling up critical infrastructure gaps under the scheme for Special Infrastructure in Leftwing Extremism affected States; assistance in training of State Police through Ministry of Defence, Central Police Organisations and Bureau of Police Research and Development; sharing of Intelligence; facilitating inter-State coordination; launching special intra-State and inter-State coordinated joint operations, assistance in community policing and civic actions and assistance in development works through a range of schemes of different Ministries.

Extent of damage due to cyclone 'Aila' in West Bengal

499. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware about the recent cyclone 'Aila' in West Bengal;

(b) the worst affected districts and the number of houses uprooted and number of lives lost;

(c) whether Government is providing relief to those affected by sending medicines, potable water and milk powder for children;

(d) whether any financial assistance is also being provided to the affected areas; and

(e) if so, the amount thereof, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (e) Cyclone 'Aila' which hit coastal areas of West Bengal, is reported to have caused severe damage in North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas and East Medinipur districts. Darjeeling district has also been affected due to heavy rainfall which resulted in landslide.

According to the information received from the Government of West Bengal over 8.00 lakh houses have been damaged and 137 human lives lost.

Execution of relief operations in the wake of natural calamities is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Government by providing logistic and financial support, whenever required.